

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT RABAT 5613 ACTION SECSTATE DATED 19 NOV 75
QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 5613

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, MO

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

REF: STATE 234765

1. DELAY IN RESPONSE REFTTEL OCCASIONED BY OUR DESIRE TO MAKE
THOROUGH RECHECK CURRENT GOM ATTITUDES/REGULATIONS BEFORE
REPLYING.

2. EMBASSY HAS KNOWN FOR YEARS THAT MOROCCO, WHILE ACTIVELY
SUPPORTING MOST OTHER JOINT ACTIVITIES, HAS GONE ITS OWN ROUTE
ON ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT. SO FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN AWARE, NO RPT
NO US FIRMS HAVE EVER BEEN BARRED FROM TRADE OR INVESTMENT
HERE BECAUSE OF ACTIVITIES OR LINKAGES WITH ISRAEL. IN VIEW
OF GOM'S ACTIVE SOLICITATION OF ARAB SUPPORT FOR SAHARA
CAMPAIGN, HOWEVER, AND POSSIBILITY THIS LIBERAL ATTITUDE
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MIGHT HAVE BECOME COMPROMISED--AS WELL AS POSSIBILITY THAT

STAND-BY REGULATIONS OR UNKNOWN MONITORING OFFICE MIGHT
EXIST OR HAVE BEEN CREATED, EMBASSY UNDERTOOK RECHECK TO BE
SURE OF GROUND.

3. AFTER THOROUGHTEST POSSIBLE INQUIRIES THROUGH VARIETY OF
BANK, MINISTRY, AND PRIVATE CHANNELS, ENGAGING RESOURCES OF
SEVERAL SECTIONS OF EMBASSY, WE CAN CONFIRM THAT GOM HAS NO
RPT NO DIRECT OR INDIRECT, INFORMAL OR STAND-BY BOYCOTT
PROVISIONS. THERE IS NO PRESSURE OR INTENTION TO ALTER
EXISTING POLICY. COCA COLA, REVLON, FORD, RCA AND OTHER
ELSEWHERE BOYCOTTED FIRMS MANUFACTURE AND/OR DISTRIBUTE
FREELY IN MOROCCO.

4. GOM SOURCES HAVE ASKED THAT THIS INFORMATION BE HANDLED
WITH DISCRETION SINCE MOROCCO DOES NOT WISH TO DRAW ATTENTION
TO ITS INDEPENDENT LINE. PUBLICITY COULD ATTRACT RENEWED
PRESSURE TO CONFORM FROM OTHER ARAB LEAGUE COUNTRIES.

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